

REMARKS

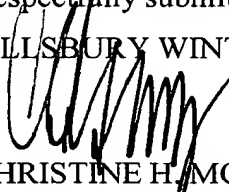
By this Amendment, claims 15 and 31 are amended merely to correct obvious typographical errors (e.g., the previous amendment to claim 15 failing to take the amended PCT claims into consideration) and claims 1-14 and 29 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 15-28 and 30-31 are pending.

With regard to the drawing objection in connection with claim 15, Applicants submit an amended Figure 1, which should remove the objection for reasons agreed to in a teleconference between Applicants' undersigned representative and the Examiner. Applicants have also submitted corresponding amendments to the specification based on amended Figure 1.

Claims 15-28 and 30-31 have been allowed. Therefore, all objections and rejections have been addressed. Therefore, Applicants request issuance of a notice of allowance indicating the allowability of all pending claims. If anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,  
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